

residents of Tribal communities and in Alaska Native Villages are typically only a small fraction of the total quantity of Tribal reserved water rights;

Whereas the trust responsibility of the Federal Government to Tribal nations requires the Federal Government to ensure the survival and welfare of Indian Tribes and people, and the failure to provide basic water service cannot be reconciled with this trust responsibility;

Whereas the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) affirmed the trust responsibility of the Federal Government to support Tribal self-governance and self-determination, and these goals cannot be fully realized without addressing inequities such as ensuring access to reliable, clean drinking water for every Tribal community;

Whereas the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on Native American people due to factors including persistent economic disadvantages in Tribal communities and in Alaska Native Villages, racial inequity, lack of access to adequate health care, and lack of public health infrastructure, including access to running water; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has provided a stark reminder that access to reliable, clean drinking water to support basic hygiene is a matter of life or death for all citizens of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That—*

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) access to reliable, clean drinking water in Tribal communities and in Alaska Native Villages is an essential human need, is critical to the health, well-being, and economic development of people living on such communities and in such villages, and is integral to maintaining the public health of the entire United States;

(B) settlement or adjudication of Tribal claims of reserved water rights is not and should not be a prerequisite to the provision of this basic human service to households located in Tribal communities and in Alaska Native Villages, nor should the provision of such basic human services be used to leverage the resolution of Tribal reserved water rights and claims; and

(C) the provision of reliable, clean drinking water to support the domestic requirements of Tribal members and Tribal communities is an essential component of the Federal trust responsibility to Indian Tribes; and

(2) the Senate—

(A) calls upon the Federal Executive Branch to work in collaboration with Tribal governments and with any relevant State and local jurisdictions to expedite the planning, design, development, and operation of the infrastructure necessary to provide reliable, clean drinking water in Tribal communities and in Alaska Native Villages, and to inform Congress of further authorizations and expenditures that may be necessary to meet this objective;

(B) calls upon the Federal Executive Branch to employ a “whole of government” approach to ensure the provision of reliable, clean drinking water to households in Tribal communities and in Alaska Native Villages and to create an interagency task force consisting of high-level representatives from departments and agencies with authority to provide water infrastructure that will work to remove barriers, optimize funding, and make immediate and tangible progress on meeting this objective and report annually to Congress on such progress; and

(C) calls upon the Federal Executive Branch, State governments, and affected water agencies to affirmatively support decoupling the planning, design, development,

and operation of such infrastructure from the settlement or adjudication of Tribal reserved water rights, and to support the development of that infrastructure necessary to provide reliable, clean drinking water in Tribal communities independent of such settlements or adjudications.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 142—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP TO SAFEGUARDING GLOBAL SECURITY, PROSPERITY, AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND WELCOMING THE VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER YOSHIHIDE SUGA TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. ROMNEY, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 142

Whereas the United States-Japan alliance is a cornerstone of global peace and stability and underscores the past, present, and future United States commitment to the stability and prosperity of Japan and the Indo-Pacific region;

Whereas the United States and Japan established diplomatic relations on March 31, 1854, with the signing of the Treaty of Peace and Amity;

Whereas 2021 marks the 76th anniversary of the end of World War II, a conflict in which the United States and Japan were enemies, and the strength of the alliance is a testament to the ability of great nations to overcome the past and to work together to create a more secure and prosperous future;

Whereas, January 19, 2021, marked the 61st anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between the United States and Japan;

Whereas the U.S.-Japan Security Consultative Committee (2+2) met on March 16, 2021, in Tokyo and “reaffirmed that the U.S.-Japan Alliance remains the cornerstone of peace, security, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region”;

Whereas the American and Japanese people share deeply rooted values of defending freedom, championing economic and social opportunity and inclusion, and respecting the rule of law;

Whereas the peoples of Japan and the United States support each other in times of need with Japan being one of the first countries to offer assistance following the 9/11 attacks and Hurricane Katrina, and Americans supporting Japan in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake, ten years ago this month, through Operation Tomodachi;

Whereas the strength of the United States-Japan relationship is due in part to the substantial reservoir of goodwill created by the close ties between the American and Japanese people at the grassroots level, often supported by the Governments of the United States and Japan;

Whereas there are more than 30,000 United States alumni of the Government of Japan-sponsored Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program, including nearly 200 JET program alumni working at the Department of State;

Whereas the Fulbright program has sent nearly 7,500 young Japanese on Fulbright scholarships to the United States since 1952, and there are 37 United States-based Japan-America Society chapters, and the United States and Japan also share more sister city relationships than any other two countries;

Whereas the Governments and people of the United States and Japan share a commitment to free and open markets, high standards for the free flow of commerce and trade, and the establishment of an inclusive architecture for regional and global trade and development;

Whereas the United States and Japan are top trading partners that exchange over \$300,000,000,000 worth of goods and services each year, Japan serves as the biggest cumulative Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) contributor to the United States and the biggest job creator in the United States manufacturing sector regarding trade, and the United States-Japan bilateral economic relationship is one of the strongest in the world;

Whereas the United States and Japan are working closely via whole-of-government initiatives, bilateral partnerships, cooperation with like-minded countries, multilateral mechanisms including the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, and enhanced private-sector engagement to assist countries in the Indo-Pacific and across the globe to catalyze investment in infrastructure, energy, and the digital economy to promote connectivity and economic growth;

Whereas United States-Japan economic cooperation has also led to close collaboration in science and technology and promoted shared values in research, including on COVID-19 response, the digital economy, national security-focused investment screening, quantum sciences, artificial intelligence, space exploration, biosciences, collaborative 5G networks, and interoperable approaches for Open RAN (radio access network) technologies;

Whereas, following a year of delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Japan will host the Olympic and Paralympic Games in the summer of 2021, bringing together athletes from around the world in a celebration of the resilience of the human spirit;

Whereas a robust and effective trilateral relationship between and among the United States, the ROK, and Japan is critical for joint security and interests in defending freedom and democracy, upholding human rights, championing women’s empowerment, combating climate change, promoting regional and global peace, security, and the rule of law in the Indo-Pacific and across the globe;

Whereas a robust and effective trilateral relationship between and among the United States, the ROK, and Japan is critical for joint security and interests in defending freedom and democracy, upholding human rights, championing women’s empowerment, combating climate change, promoting regional and global peace, security, and the rule of law in the Indo-Pacific and across the globe;

Whereas the United States welcomes Japan’s successive measures to enhance the role of its Self Defense Forces in securing peace and stability in the region and beyond, including its commitment on collective self defense under Japan’s laws, which strengthens the alliance’s ability to defend Japan and to continue safeguard regional security;

Whereas the United States-Japan alliance is essential for ensuring maritime security and freedom of navigation, commerce, and overflight in the waters of the East China Sea;

Whereas the United States invests significant military resources and capabilities to meet the Alliance’s current and future security challenges and through the U.S.-Japan Host Nation Support framework, the Government of Japan shares the costs of stationing United States forces in Japan;

Whereas the United States and Japan, together with Australia and India, form a

quadrilateral security cooperation known as the Quad which met on March 12, 2021, and reaffirmed its commitment to a shared vision for an Indo-Pacific region that is “free, open, inclusive, healthy, anchored by democratic values, and unconstrained by coercion”;

Whereas people-to-people ties between the United States and Japan are long-standing and deep, as exemplified by the gift of the beautiful cherry trees that dot our Nation’s capital from the People of Japan to the People of the United States in 1912, and the cherry blossom festivals currently taking place across our Nation, signifying an unbreakable bond between the two nations; and

Whereas, in April 2021, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga will visit the United States at the invitation of President Joe Biden: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) welcomes Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga to the United States;

(2) reaffirms the importance of the United States-Japan alliance for maintaining peace and stability and fostering a free and open Indo-Pacific region and beyond;

(3) supports ongoing efforts to further strengthen the United States-Japan alliance, including the U.S.-Japan Security Consultative Committee (2+2) to confront threats posed by aggressive actors that threaten the peace and safety of both nations;

(4) supports strong cooperation between the United States and Japan in safeguarding maritime security and ensuring freedom of navigation, commerce, and overflight in the East and South China Seas;

(5) affirms the Senkaku Islands fall within the scope of Article V of the U.S.-Japan Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security, and remain opposed to any unilateral attempts to change the status quo in the East China Sea or undermine Japan’s administration of these islands;

(6) acknowledges Japan’s critical role as the sole East Asian member of the Quad, which commits to a shared vision for a free and inclusive Indo-Pacific region;

(7) stands in solidarity with Japan as it seeks justice and accountability for its abductees, and pledges the full support of the United States for Japan in seeking to resolve this issue;

(8) recognizes the support of the Government of Japan in addressing global challenges, including COVID-19 challenges, that threaten the health and safety of people everywhere;

(9) supports the expansion of academic and cultural exchanges between the United States and Japan, especially efforts to encourage Japanese students to study at universities in the United States, and vice versa, to deepen people-to-people ties;

(10) encourages the expansion of collaboration for research and development of new and emerging cyber technologies with Japan, especially to address global challenges posed by the proliferation of digital authoritarianism;

(11) promotes deepening the economic and trade ties between the United States and Japan, including the empowerment of women, which is vital for the prosperity of both our nations, the Indo-Pacific region, and the world; and

(12) calls for continued cooperation between the Governments of the United States and Japan in the promotion of human rights.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 143—TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE THE PATRIOTISM AND SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES PROVIDED BY VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. TUBERVILLE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:

S. RES. 143

Whereas, throughout the United States, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic (referred to in this preamble as the “pandemic”) has devastated veterans and their families;

Whereas the Department of Veterans Affairs (referred to in this preamble as the “VA”) has tested or treated over 230,000 cases of COVID-19 and has recorded over 10,000 known deaths caused by COVID-19;

Whereas over 1,000,000 veterans lost their jobs because of the pandemic, with veteran unemployment reaching nearly 12 percent in April 2020;

Whereas many veterans have experienced feelings of isolation and loneliness caused by the public health restrictions needed to curb the spread of COVID-19;

Whereas, since their inception, Veterans Service Organizations (referred to in this preamble as “VSOs”) have always supported and advocated on behalf of members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their families;

Whereas VSOs have adapted to the unique challenges posed by the pandemic in order to continue to support veterans and advocate for the veteran community;

Whereas members of VSOs have fostered a sense of connection and community amid the pandemic by—

- (1) calling, emailing, or writing to fellow veterans;
- (2) delivering food and groceries to fellow veterans and their families; and
- (3) hosting virtual and socially distanced events;

Whereas members of VSOs have conducted thousands of peer-wellness checks to combat the ongoing mental health crisis that has been exacerbated by the pandemic;

Whereas VSOs have continued to help veterans access healthcare during the pandemic by—

- (1) assisting veterans with enrollment in VA healthcare plans;
- (2) enabling access to telehealth; and
- (3) providing hundreds of thousands of rides to medical appointments;

Whereas VSOs have helped veterans find employment by—

- (1) connecting veterans to employers;
- (2) hosting virtual job fairs; and
- (3) providing online job search resources;

Whereas representatives of VSOs have helped hundreds of thousands of veterans navigate a VA benefits claims process that has been changed by the pandemic;

Whereas VSOs are playing an essential role in encouraging all veterans to get vaccinated;

Whereas members of VSOs are volunteering at vaccination sites across the United States to help their fellow veterans and all other individuals in the United States receive the COVID-19 vaccine; and

Whereas VSOs will continue to play an instrumental role representing and supporting the veteran community as the United States moves forward on the path towards recov-

ering from the pandemic: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors and recognizes the patriotism and service to the United States provided by Veterans Service Organizations (referred to in this resolution as “VSOs”) during the COVID-19 pandemic;

(2) commends efforts by VSOs to improvise and adapt to the challenges posed by COVID-19 to continue to support veterans in need, especially those left most vulnerable by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(3) supports efforts by VSOs to enable veterans, their families, and their caregivers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 144—RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF MARCH 21 THROUGH MARCH 27, 2021, AS “NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK” AND ENCOURAGING COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE DANGERS OF POISONING AND PROMOTE POISON PREVENTION

Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 144

Whereas the designation of National Poison Prevention Week was first authorized by Congress and President Kennedy in 1961 in Public Law 87-319 (75 Stat. 681);

Whereas National Poison Prevention Week occurs during the third full week of March each year;

Whereas, as of February 10, 2021, poison centers have handled more than 838,000 cases related to the COVID-19 pandemic alone and have seen dramatic increases in cases relating to hand sanitizer and household cleaning products;

Whereas poison control centers responded to COVID-19 related surges by conducting poison safety and poisoning prevention outreach in a virtual format during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas the American Association of Poison Control Centers (referred to in this preamble as the “AAPCC”) works with the 55 poison control centers in the United States to track—

- (1) more than 1,000 commonly used household and workplace products that can cause poisoning; and
- (2) poisonings and the sources of those poisonings;

Whereas the National Poison Data System (NPDS) database contains over 447,000 products, ranging from viral and bacterial agents to commercial chemical and drug products;

Whereas, in 2019, 2,148,141 people called the poison help line to reach a poison control center;

Whereas, in 2019, as reported to the AAPCC, 92 percent of poison exposures reported to local poison control centers occurred in the home;

Whereas local poison control centers save the people of the United States \$1,800,000,000 in medical costs annually;

Whereas the AAPCC and poison control centers partner with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and State, local, Tribal, and territorial health departments to monitor occurrences of environmental, biological, and emerging threats in communities across the United States, including food poisoning, botulism, and vaping-associated lung injury;

Whereas, in the United States, more than 300 children 19 years of age and younger are